



M. JODI RELL  
GOVERNOR

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS

CRISTINE A. VOGEL  
COMMISSIONER

**Testimony of Commissioner Cristine A. Vogel, MPH  
Office of Health Care Access  
Public Health Committee Public Hearing  
Wednesday, March 14, 2007**

Good Morning Senator Handley, Representative Sayers and distinguished members of the Public Health Committee. I am Cristine Vogel, Commissioner of the Office of Health Care Access (OHCA). I am here to testify on Senate Bill 1145, "An Act Concerning Revisions to the Office of Health Care Access Statutes." The purpose of the proposed bill is to support updated regulations that we have drafted. Regulations for the financial division of OHCA have not been updated since 1991 and it is necessary to bring them into conformance with the financial information that is relevant and important for the Office to collect. However, in order to move forward with the regulations we need to make some statutory changes first

The proposed regulations have been fully vetted through the hospital industry - - as individual hospitals and through the Connecticut Hospital Association. When we initially submitted the proposed bill, we had already completed the entire regulations process to the point where they were submitted to the Regulations Review Committee. At that point, the Legislative Commissioners Office brought to OHCA's attention that prior to the adoption of the proposed regulations we needed to make changes to certain sections of statutes in order to adopt the proposed regulations and that is why you have this bill before you today.

I ask for your approval of this bill so the agency can move forward with the updated regulations. I would again like to thank you for the opportunity to come before you today. If you have any questions I would be happy to take them at this time.

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